Red Rodney & Ira Sullivan – Spirit Within (1982)

1 Sophisticated Yenta 5:51 2 King Of France 5:20 3 Spirit Within 7:42 4 Island Song 6:05 5 Monday's Dance 5:45 6 Crescent City 6:35 Alto Flute, Shaker – Ira Sullivan (tracks: A1) Bass – Jay Anderson Drums – Steve Bagby Flugelhorn – Ira Sullivan (tracks: A1, A2, B2, B3), Red Rodney (tracks: A1, A2, B1 to B3) Percussion – Steve Bagby (tracks: B1) Piano – Garry Dial Soprano Saxophone – Ira Sullivan (tracks: A3, B1) Trumpet – Red Rodney (tracks: A3)

By the time of their fifth record, the Red Rodney-Ira Sullivan Quintet also included pianist Garry Dial, bassist Jay Anderson and drummer Steve Bagby, and it was a perfect vehicle for the co-leaders. Rodney (heard here mostly on flugelhorn) was challenged by the advanced material (four of the six numbers on this out-of-print LP are Dial originals), and underground legend Sullivan received more exposure than he had ever had in his career. On this LP, Sullivan (heard on soprano, alto flute and flugelhorn) inspired Rodney to some of his finest playing. Superior post-bop music that deserves to be reissued on CD. ---Scott Yanow, AllMusic Review

One of the best working quintets of the early 1980's. Great tunes, arrangements and solos. Rodney and Sullivan were at their most advanced (post-bop). All of this group's work is worth having and this features five group originals- four by pianist Gary Dial. ---Barry Rosenberg, amazon.com

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